

October 1, 2007

## VIA U.S. MAIL

Attorney General's Office
Attn: Mary Gould, Legal Assistant
Consumer Protection Bureau
33 Capitol Street
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Ms. Gould:

I am writing on behalf of Applera Corporation ("Applera") to inform you of a security breach affecting twenty-four New Hampshire residents. On August 9, 2007, a thief broke into the car of an Applera employee and stole the employee's briefcase. The briefcase contained the employee's company-issued laptop computer. The employee promptly reported the theft to the Norwalk (Connecticut) Police Department, which is investigating. A copy of the police report is attached for your convenience.

Applera worked diligently to reconstruct the files that are stored on the stolen computer. In early September, Applera determined that the stolen laptop contains one file with the name and social security number of Applera employees, including, as noted above, twenty-four New Hampshire residents. Applera notified affected employees on or about September 19, 2007.

If you have any questions concerning the matters discussed above, please do not hesitate to call me.

Very truly yours,

Charles Heinzer

Senior Director, Attorney





## Norwalk Police Department

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STATUS CODE C=COMPLAINANT V=VICTIM A=ARRESTEE J=JUVENILE H=OTHER M=MISSING W=WITNESS O=OFFENDER D=DRIVER S=SUSPECT P=POLICE OFFICER T=TOT

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260NLB

1999 CT

On this date, I responded 542 Westport Avenue on a report of burglary into motor vehicle.

Complainant, Steven Andronowitz reports that while in the Bed Bath and Beyond parking lot his vehicle was burglarized.

Ct. 260NLB had been parked at above location for less than 10 minutes.

This Officer observed the rear right window smashed.

Complainant's black brief case had his silver dell computer, checkbook and other personal effects in same.

The laptop was valued at approx. 2,500.00.

No witnesses, No suspects. Complainant was advised to contact his bank and advised them of the theft.

SUBSCRIBED &SWORN BEFORE ME: NOTARY DAY OF SUPERVISOR SÍGNATA OFFICER SIGNATUR



301 Meritt 7 Norwalk, CT 06851

September 19, 2007

John Doe Some Street Some Address 2 City, State ZipCode

Dear John Doe:

Applera Corporation recognizes the importance of safeguarding its personnel information. To that end, Applera has implemented administrative, technical and physical safeguards for that information. Even the most rigorous safeguards, however, can not guarantee protection against criminal conduct.

Our Company recently was victimized by such conduct, and we regret to have to say that this criminal conduct might have a direct impact on you. On August 9, 2007, a thief broke into the car of an Applera employee and stole the employee's briefcase. The briefcase contained a laptop computer used by the employee for work. The employee immediately reported the theft to the Norwalk Police Department. The investigation into the theft is on-going, and Applera is cooperating fully.

We have worked for several weeks to reconstruct all of the information stored on the stolen laptop. We recently determined that the laptop contained a spreadsheet with the first and last name and Social Security Number (SSN) of Applera employees, including yours. We are pleased to report that the stolen laptop was password protected and did <u>not</u> contain credit or debit card numbers or financial account numbers. In addition, neither the vehicle nor the stolen briefcase would suggest to a passer-by the nature of the information stored on the laptop. Consequently, we have no reason to believe that the theft was directed at the information stored on the laptop. We also have received no reports to date, indicating that the information stored on the laptops has been misused.

Applera recognizes that the theft of your personal information, and any related inconvenience, might be upsetting. We regret that this incident has occurred, and we apologize for any inconvenience it may cause you. We are in the process of reviewing our security procedures in an effort to prevent a recurrence.

We have taken several steps to lessen the potential inconvenience to you and to reduce the risk that you might be victimized by identity theft. To begin with, we have arranged for **one year of free credit monitoring through ConsumerInfo.com, Inc.®, an Experian® company.** This product, known as **TripleAlert**<sup>SM</sup>, will identify, and notify you of, key changes in your three national credit reports that may indicate fraudulent activity. You can obtain additional information about **TripleAlert**<sup>SM</sup> at the following Web address: <a href="https://www.nationalidrecovery.com/m/applera">www.nationalidrecovery.com/m/applera</a>.

You have ninety (90) days to activate this membership. We encourage you to activate your credit monitoring membership quickly. Please visit <a href="http://partner.consumerinfo.com/biology">http://partner.consumerinfo.com/biology</a> and enter the activation code provided below. You will be instructed on how to initiate your online membership. Your Credit Monitoring Activation Code is: 000000000000000.

T (203) 840-2000 www.applera.com



301 Meritt 7 Norwalk, CT 06851

To supplement this credit monitoring membership, we have contracted with National ID Recovery (NIDR) to provide the following services free of charge to you:

- > NIDR will help you obtain free credit reports from each of the national credit bureaus and place a "fraud alert" on your credit report with each of the national credit bureaus. Just call 1-800-836-5379 to take advantage of this service;
- > NIDR will work to answer any questions you might have concerning the security breach;
- > If you do become a victim of identity theft within one year of the date of this letter, NIDR will work to recover your identity for you;
- Additional educational resources on how to protect yourself from identity theft and on related topics are available at <a href="https://www.nationalidrecovery.com/m/applera">www.nationalidrecovery.com/m/applera</a>.

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) recommends that potential victims of ID theft periodically check their credit reports and account statements. You should consider reporting suspicious activity to your local law enforcement agency.

You can find additional information about protecting yourself against the possibility of ID theft at the FTC's Web site (<a href="www.consumer.gov/idtheft">www.consumer.gov/idtheft</a>). The Commission also maintains an identity theft hotline number (toll free) 877-438-4338. You can file an ID theft complaint with the FTC through that number. You also can consult your state's consumer protection board concerning the availability of additional protections under state law, such as a security freeze.

If you have any questions, please dall **1-800-836-5679**. Again, we apologize for any inconvenience that this incident may cause you.

Very truly yours,

Barbara J. Kerr

Vice President, Human Resources